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HON et al. U.S. Patent Appln. 10/796,291  
Attorney Docket No.: 081468-0308639

- Amendment -

FEB 09 2006

combination of features recited by claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). And, because claims dependent claims 2-5 depend from claim 1, either directly or indirectly, claims 2-5 are also patentable by virtue of dependency as well as for their additional recitations.

In addition, because independent claims 9 and 17 recites similar patentable features as identified above with respect to claim 1, claims 9 and 17 is patentable for at least the reasons given relative to claim 1. And because claims 10-13 and claim 18 depend from claims 9 and 17, respectively, claims 10-13 and claim 18 are also patentable by virtue of dependency as well as for their additional recitations. Applicants, therefore, request the withdrawal of the §103(a) rejections with respect to claims 9-18.

II. Conclusion.

All matters having been addressed and in view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully requests the entry of this Amendment, the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the immediate allowance of all pending claims.

To the extent that all pending claims are not allowed, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner furnish the bases for objecting to claims 6-8 and 14-16.

Applicant's Counsel remains ready to assist the Examiner in any way to facilitate and expedite the prosecution of this matter. Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975.

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The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

**PILLSBURY WINTHROP  
SHAW PITTMAN LLP**



E. R. HERNANDEZ  
Reg. No. 47641  
Tel. No. 703 770.7788  
Fax No. 703 770.7901

Date: February 9, 2006  
P.O. Box 10500  
McLean, VA 22102  
(703) 905-2000

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